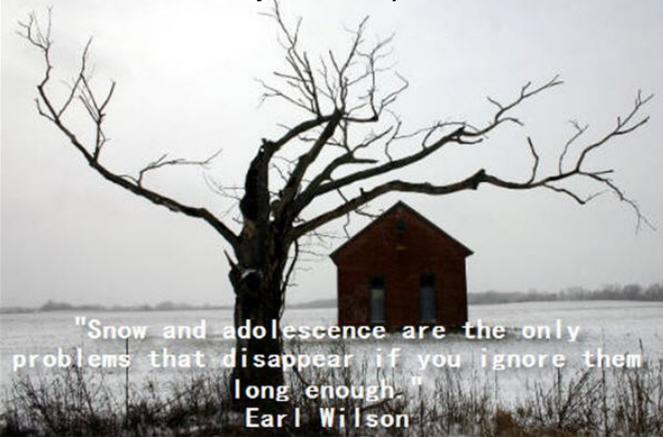


Mike's Minutes

I don't know about you but I could have done without this round of Winter storms. It makes me want to stay inside where it's warm when I really want to be outside. Maybe it's time to start designing that new pond or waterfall for your yard. This would be a great time to come in and discuss your ideas and how best to bring them to life. Let us help you realize your 'dreamscape.'

If you already have a water feature, it is especially important to keep the

Here is one of my favorite quotes about snow.



pond surface from being totally covered with ice during this time of year. While colder water holds more dissolved oxygen than warmer water, you need an opening in the ice to allow for gas transfer. As the fish and bacteria respire, oxygen in the water is depleted. Carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and other gases build up. The ice cover does not allow these gases to percolate out into the air, nor does it allow oxygen to re-enter the water. So, a low dissolved oxygen condition may occur. If the ice cover remains for any length of time, the fish may actually suffocate. Normally in Oklahoma we don't have that many successive days of below freezing weather but notice I said normally. Chopping through the ice can also be harmful to the fish. The shockwaves will severely stress the fish and in some cases may

even kill them. If you don't have a waterfall or choose not to run it this time of year, think about a de-icer (sometimes called a 'heater') or an aerator, both energy efficient and capable of keeping that opening in the ice. A few of our customers are still experiencing some algae growth when the sun shines and the days are warmer, if you are like them and have left your UV light connected, check it frequently. If it is allowed to freeze, it could break the quartz sleeve and damage the light or even worse, drain the pond.

At the end of this month, (27th and 28th) we will be closed off and on during normal business hours to attend the annual WaterGarden Expo hosted by our wholesale division. This event brings in most all of our primary vendors and wholesale clients from around the country. It is where we get to see and learn about the new products for the coming year and network with other pond professionals sharing valuable information and learning new techniques for solving your pond problems. Call us if you are planning on coming out those days and we'll make sure someone is available to help you. If you are a wholesaler or contractor and haven't yet registered, please go to pondliner.com and do so. ...Mike

Tips and Tricks

The number one cause of pump failure is overheating due to lack of water. Don't let your pump fall victim to this anytime but especially during this kind of weather when it is so terribly cold. Do you want to change a pump now?

#1: Ensure that the opening to your skimmer is clear of debris and frozen solids.

#2: Check to make sure the waterfall is still contained within its banks. Sometimes ice may form and push rocks out of place allowing the water to flow outside the boundaries you've established. This results in water somewhere you don't want it and not enough water in the pond to circulate properly.

#3: Look through the hole in the ice to make sure there is water in the pond sufficient to sustain the fish.

One customer allowed the pond to freeze over completely and didn't realize that water was escaping over the back-side of the waterfall. When her grandson chopped a hole in the ice (something we don't advocate) they discovered that there was only a few inches of water remaining for the fish. Thankfully, they all survived.

Water Garden Club Meetings

Tulsa 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30pm Tulsa Garden Ctr
www.gcwgs.com for more info
 OKC 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00pm Will Rogers
www.wgso.org for more info
 Stillwater 3rd Monday @ 7:00pm
www.stillwaterwatergardens.org for more info
 Duncan 1st Tuesday @ 7:00pm Red River Tech
 580-595-0842 for more info
 If you have a water garden club let us know so we can advertise it here for you.

**Classes starting soon
 Learn to build a pond**

NEW Classes - SPRING/SUMMER 2014 SCHEDULE

Check the schedule for start times. All classes are free and open to the public. No advance registration required. More classes added each month. Ten Pond Dollars awarded for each class. We train rain or shine in the only indoor pond training facility in the U.S.

March 15 2014 Spring Startup
 Your pond will be waking up soon and the fish will be hungry. It's time to find out all about getting ready for the new season. Come to class and earn ten Pond Dollars besides learning a lot about your pond.
10:00am

March 29 2014 New Class...Pond Filtration
 We get lots of questions every year about filtration in water gardens and koi ponds. During this class, we'll show and discuss the various types of filters available and how you can best implement them in your pond.
10:00am

April 12 2014 Pond Build
 If you have ever wanted a pond in your landscape, now is the time and this is the place. We start with a hole in the ground and go through every step up to and including adding water. Come let us show you how it's done.
10:00am



UNIVERSAL ROCKS
 SO REAL, SO LIGHT, SO EASY

Come see the new Universal Rock display in the store. These rocks are so lightweight and easy to use in your landscape, in your water feature or around your pool. Several sizes and styles available including self-contained ponds like the one in the corner that you could set on your patio or in a garden room. Molded from actual rocks, these are the most realistic faux rocks on the market today. Save your back!



Get the latest information on our website or Facebook page; www.pondproshop.com or [facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/](https://www.facebook.com/pond-pro-shop/). **Please note our Winter store hours began November 1; Wednesday thru Friday 9:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday-Monday-Tuesday.** Our store number is 405-273-8363 if you have questions concerning products or classes.

Wanna be Green?

The Aquascape RainXchange Rain Barrel has a planter lid for flowers and the water harvested is healthier for your plants. Available in both terra cotta and sandstone.



20% off!!

Coupon required, valid through 2/28/14 2010.

Coupons for in-store use ONLY

Coupon must be present for discount where required. Valid for retail store purchases only. **Not valid with any other discount**
 Only the largest discount will apply.

Pond De-Icer

We have sizes from 100 to 1500 watts. Remember, the purpose of the heater is to keep a hole open in the ice for gas transfer, not to heat the pond.



20% off!!

Coupon required, valid through 2/28/14